

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

30. (Currently Amended): An *ex vivo* culture of an isolated a population of multipotent, progenitor or precursor brain stem cells that are immunonegative for glial fibrillary protein, nestin and TuJ1 when cultured under conditions that prevent or reduce cell-cell and cell-substrate interactions,

wherein the brain stem cells are from a mammal selected from the group consisting of: human and mouse.

31. (Previously presented): The *ex vivo* culture of claim 30, wherein the cells are from a human and the cells are made according to a method comprising the step of culturing a dissociated human brain cell under conditions that inhibit cell-cell and cell-substrate interactions.

32. (Previously presented): The *ex vivo* culture of claim 31, wherein the step of culturing the dissociated human brain cell comprises culturing the dissociated human brain cell on a non-adhesive substrate in suspension culture supplemented with fetal bovine serum and methyl cellulose.

33. (Canceled).

34. (Canceled).

35. (Previously presented): The *ex vivo* culture of claim 30, wherein the multipotent brain stem cells are mouse cells.

36. (Previously presented): The *ex vivo* culture of claim 30, wherein the multipotent brain stem cells are obtained from a post-mortem mammal selected from the group consisting of: human and mouse.

37. (Previously presented): The *ex vivo* culture of claim 30, wherein the multipotent brain stem cells are cultured in medium comprising insulin, putrescine, progesterone, selenite, pituitary extract, transferrin, serum, growth factors, and at least one contact-limiting factor.

38. (Canceled).

39. (Canceled).